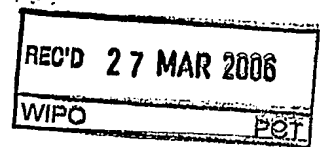


# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:  
EDWARD R. LAWSON, JR.  
MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH LLP  
100 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

## PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>074408-9007</b>		Date of mailing (day/month/year) <b>23 MAR 2006</b>	
International application No. <b>PCT/US05/06414</b>		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International filing date (day/month/year) <b>28 February 2005 (28.02.2005)</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>27 February 2004 (27.02.2004)</b>		
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC <b>IPC(7): G01G 21/00 and US Cl.: 177/126</b>			
Applicant <b>PELSTAR, LLC</b>			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☒ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

### 2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	Date of completion of this opinion <b>29 December 2005 (29.12.2005)</b>	Authorized officer Randy W. Gibson Telephone No. (571) 272-2815
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Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (April 2005)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US05/06414

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
  - ☐ a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material
    - ☐ a sequence listing
    - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material
    - ☐ on paper
    - ☐ in electronic form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing
    - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
    - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
    - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☒ In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has, within the applicable time limit:
- ☒ paid additional fees
  - ☐ paid additional fees under protest and, where applicable, the protest fee
  - ☐ paid additional fees under protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid
  - ☐ not paid additional fees
2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- ☐ complied with
  - ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:  
See the lack of unity section of the International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/210)
4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:
- ☒ all parts.
  - ☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.  
PCT/US05/06414

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>13-17 and 23-27</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-12 and 18-22</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>13-17</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-12 and 18-27</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-27</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1. Claims 1-10 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Fluckiger et al (US # 6,566,614). See Figure 2.
2. Claims 11, 12, and 18-22 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Van Berkel (US # 1,457,328). Van Berkel show a cylinder and piston arrangement for attachment to the end of a weighing beam that has a variable passage for the hydraulic fluid for adjusting the amount of damping. It also appears that the nut under area "i" screws off allowing contaminants to be drained from the chamber.
3. Claims 23-27 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over by Van Berkel (US # 1,457,328). It would have been obvious to use modern materials to construct the the cylinder and piston of Van Berkel.